

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 01827 250948Z

11

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 250755Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

SECSTATE WASHDC 370

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

COMIDEASTFOR

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON ENG

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 1827

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CN, MA

SUBJ: COMORO ISLANDS

CINCLANT AND CINUSNAVEUR FOR POLADS

REF: TANANARIVE 0307 (NOT TO USUN)

1. MIKLOS'S LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 23 ANSWERS AMBASSADOR
MENDENHALL'S LETTER CITED IN REFTEL.

2. EMBASSY BELIEVES THERE IS CLEAR REASON FOR IRAN TO BE
INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING CLOSE TIES WITH COMORO ISLANDS
WHEN THEY BECOME INDEPENDENT, BUT THAT U.S. SHOULD NOT BE
TOO DIRECTLY INVOLVED. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT WE APPROACH
MIDDLE-LEVEL IRANIAN MFA OFFICIAL ABOUT COMING INDEPENDENCE
OF COMOROS AND OFFER BRIEFING WHICH COULD HIGHLIGHT NEW
COUNTRY'S NEEDS. USUN COULD ALSO DISCUSS INFORMALLY
WITH IRANDEL IN CONTEXT OF MULTINATIONAL AID TO COMOROS.

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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 01827 250948Z

WHILE IRAN DESIRES CLOSE TIES WITH AFRICAN NATIONS, GOI

OFFICIALS HAVE PUBLICLY NOTED LIMITATIONS ON IRAN'S ABILITY TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ALL NEEDY NATIONS WITH WHICH THEY DEAL. HOWEVER, IRANIAN INTEREST IN COMOROS NEED NOT INVOLVE LARGE SUMS AND WOULD BE IN KEEPING WITH IRAN'S GROWING INTEREST IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA. WOULD APPRECIATE COPY OF TANANARIVE'S A-149 RPT 149 DEALING WITH IRAN WHICH WAS NOT RECEIVED HERE.

3. COMMENT: SHAH'S WELL-KNOWN DISLIKE FOR QADHAFI MIGHT CAUSE IRANIANS TO SHOW MORE INTEREST IN COMOROS IF LIBYAN LEADER BEGINS TO COURT THE NEW COUNTRY.
HELMS

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NNN

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